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**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

# INFORMATION REPORT

## REPORT

CD NO.

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**COUNTRY** East Germany

DATE DISTR. 31 August 1955

**SUBJECT** Increased Restrictions on Travel to West Berlin

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**PLACE  
ACQUIRED**NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

**SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.**

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1. On 1 July 1955, increased security measures were announced to DIA (Deutscher Innen- und Aussenhandel - German Internal and Foreign Trade) employees. According to these new regulations, all employees residing in Berlin suburban areas located in the Soviet Occupation Zone, i.e. Potsdam, Babelsberg, Oranienburg, Stahnsdorf, Klein Machnow, etc., are required to pass through West Berlin to East Berlin on through S-Bahn trains. A person found violating this rule will be summarily dismissed and possibly will be prosecuted.
2. Persons desiring to remain in East Berlin for social or business purposes after the through trains normally run must obtain prior approval from the plant directorates (Werksdirektion) of their places of employment. Applications must include the date the person wishes to remain, the place, the time, and the person the applicant plans to meet. In the addition the number of the non-express train to be taken home and the time it runs must be listed. This is possible since non-express trains have regular schedules in West Berlin. If the time schedule of the application is not strictly adhered to the person is considered to have violated regulations. If an applicant does not receive approval of his request, he is to assume that the application has been disapproved and cancel his plans.
3. According to Director Rudolf Eschler, of DIA Invest-Expert, it is expected that all employees residing in suburban areas as described above will shortly be faced with an ultimatum: they will either have to move to East Berlin or be discharged. It is expected that this will be the next step taken to tighten security and eliminate all contact with the West.
4. The employees of the DIAs were required to sign a formal pledge to the effect that they would not go to West Berlin and would obey the new regulations described above. As of 21 July 1955, large numbers of DIA employees had resigned, principally employees of DIA-Elektrotechnik, in protest against the new regulations which they interpret as a further infringement on personal freedom.

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## CLASSIFICATION

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